



**CEDAR RIVER GARDEN CENTER**

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[WWW.CEDARRIVERGARDENCENTER.COM](http://WWW.CEDARRIVERGARDENCENTER.COM)



# Curb-side Pick-Up Available

Do you have an elderly parent that isn't able to leave home? Do you have the kids at home and are practicing social distancing? Perhaps you yourself are practicing social distancing, we are here to help.

Effective immediately we are offering curb-side pickup. We feel the thoughts and dreams of a new gardening season are a way to keep our minds busy and move in a positive direction. We are a small business with a big passion for helping, educating, and enjoying the great outdoors!

CALL AHEAD so we can discuss your specific details and we will arrange your time to pick up.

Things you might need over the next few weeks:

- Seeding  
Starting  
Potting  
Mix
- Bulk  
or  
pre-  
packaged  
flower  
and  
veggie  
seed
- Tree  
and  
Shrub  
fertilizer
- Grass  
seed  
and  
lawn  
fertilizer
- Rabbit  
and  
Deer  
Repellent
- Apply  
pre-  
emergent  
products  
such  
as

Preene  
or  
Corn  
Gluten  
Meal  
to  
prevent  
broadleaf  
weeds

- A  
gift  
item  
to  
brighten  
someones  
day

-  
Let's  
start  
the  
May  
Day  
tradition  
early!  
Leave  
a  
gift  
on  
someone's  
doorstep,  
knock,  
and  
hide  
and  
watch  
the  
smile  
on  
their  
face.  
We  
have  
items  
at  
all  
price  
points.

If need be, we can send pictures and help shop over the phone.

We want to offer our most sincere appreciation to the customers who have supported us thus far. We know you could have gone to any number of locations for your gardening needs, but you chose to come to us. WE THANK YOU!

## Indoor Gardening Activities for the Kiddos



The world has found itself in a unique situation. Our new found distancing is re-teaching us about connecting with the slower side of life. For many gardeners, that is how we have always enjoyed spending our time, but for the young families that typically get to enjoy their afternoon at gymnastics or basketball what do you do with this new free time? We hope you find a few ideas in this emailer that could fill a fun few hours. Is there a better time to start teaching kids the superpowers of gardening?

## At Home Hair Salon

What you need: Eggshell, potting soil, and grass seed

- \* Using a permanent marker, draw silly faces on the outside of the shell
- \* Using a needle, poke a hole in the bottom of the shell
- \* Add potting soil 3/4 of the way full
- \* Sprinkle grass seed in shell
- \* Top off the remaining space with soil
- \* Give a drink and place in a sunny window



Use an empty carton to hold your new friends upright or make a 3-D body for it

out of heavy weight construction paper.

**When the grass comes up, let the kids have fun styling the pretty green hair.**

## Longest Vine Challenge

If you find yourself having to make a trip to the grocery store, grab a sweet potato or two!



*Image credit: 17apart.com*

Challenge a parent or sibling to see who can find the best spot in the house to set their potato vine for maximum growth.

What you need: a large cup, three topicks, water and a sweet potato cut in half

- Poke the toothpicks in to the potato to help hold the potato halfway in the cup of water
- Place it in a bright light location
- Set

a  
date  
to  
see  
who  
can  
grow  
the  
longest  
vine  
in  
that  
time.

Once it warms up, plant your vine in a pot to reap the beautiful benefits.



## Seed Starting Indoors

What you need: Potting mix, seeds of your choice, egg carton or any container to plant in, and a little fertilizer once the seeds pop

This one seems pretty basic, but lets use this one as an extended teaching

moment.

Ask questions: If they don't know the answers, have them research it.

- What growing requirements do both humans and plants share?
- Are there any plants that can

grow  
without  
soil?

- How  
old  
is  
the  
oldest  
tree?  
Where  
is  
it  
located?
- Humans  
require  
food  
to  
survive.  
Do  
plants  
need  
any  
nutrients  
to  
survive?  
What  
are  
they?
- What  
is  
the  
difference  
between  
a  
fruit  
and  
a  
vegetable?
- What  
town  
in  
Iowa  
celebrates  
the  
largest  
Pumpkin  
that  
can  
be  
grown?  
How

heavy  
was  
the  
largest  
pumpkin  
at  
the  
Iowa  
State  
Fair?

Start a germination chart:

- \* How long did it take for the seeds to germinate?
- \* Add a watering section where they must initial once they did their watering "chore."

Use this time to let the kids choose unique items to grow. A few examples: Luffa Sponge Gourds, Turks Turban Pumpkins, Strawberry Popcorn, and Purple Carrots. The corn should be direct sown once the threat of frost has passed (mid-May), but its good to get planning for this years garden.

## Other Ideas:

- Rock Painting
- Scavenger Hunt In Your Yard
- Trace a Leaf and Make It Into Funny Face
- Create a Collage with Items Found on a Walk



[kayboocreations.blogspot.com](http://kayboocreations.blogspot.com)

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## Make This the Year for Your Best Garden Yet



Obviously, we always support the idea of growing your own produce. You can control the chemicals, amount of human touches, and overall quality all from your yard. Plus, if you saw our Facebook post last week, you saw the benefits of putting in the effort to save money. The price of one cucumber purchased at the store was equivalent to 13 seeds. We roughly figured each plant may produce five pounds of cucumbers. According to our math, that is a lot of bang for you buck.

Our veggie crew potted up these containers of easy to grow vegetables. In just over a week we anticipate seeing their sprouting faces. We planted lettuce, spinach, kale, peas (will need to be planted in the ground a later date for best production), and basil. The leafy plants can be cut and allowed to re-grow for the freshest salad possible!

With our ability to get fresh herbs from the grocery store temporarily limited, why not try a crack at growing your own? If you don't have a bright light area in your home, we suggest chives, parsley, and mint. If you have full light your pallet is far more open. Experiment with new varieties you may not otherwise try.

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## March To-Do

- Clean off your beds starting late March

- Fertilize perennials, trees, and shrubs with a slow release granular
- Fertilize with an acidic option for Evergreens and Broadleaf Evergreens such a Rhododendron and Azalea
- Apply deer and rabbit repellent as soon as you seen bulbs starting to pop
- Prune out dead canes on Roses
- Remove last years blooms on Hydrangeas

- Late  
March/Early  
April  
-  
plant  
onions  
and  
potatoes  
(scheduled  
to  
arrive  
4.6  
-  
call  
ahead  
to  
confirm)
- Start  
seeds  
indoors
- Cole  
crop  
season  
is  
coming,  
start  
preparing  
your  
area  
by  
adding  
slow  
release  
fertilizer  
or  
compost



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